

The higher, drier slopes around the lake support mesic Oak-Hickory Forests. These forests have a canopy dominated by red oak, white oak, and tulip tree with a mixture of other species such as loblolly pine, mockernut hickory, black cherry, and red maple. Understory components include saplings of the canopy species, as well as sourwood, American beech, sand hickory, flowering dogwood, redbud, black gum, white ash, and *Fagus grandifolia*. Shrubs such as deerberry (*Vaccinium stamineum*), black haw (*Viburnum prunifolium*), strawberry bush (*Euonymus americanus*), and smooth sumac (*Rhus glabra*) occur infrequently. A sparse herb layer supports vines such as muscadine (*Vitis rotundifolia*) and Virginia creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolius*), as well as Christmas fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*), ebony spleenwort, partridgeberry (*Mitchella repens*), pipsissewa (*Chimaphila maculata*), skullcap (*Scutellaria* sp.), and other common species. Though the canopy is young in some areas, in others it is fairly mature.

Slopes which are more moist support Mesic Mixed Hardwood Forest with a canopy of tulip tree, red oak, sweet gum, and red maple over an understory of those species, as well as flowering dogwood, American beech, red maple, redbud, ironwood, fringetree, and white ash. Shrubs such as strawberry bush, black haw, spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*), mapleleaf viburnum (*Viburnum acerifolium*), and hazelnut (*Corylus americana*) are present. The herb layer supports Christmas fern, perfoliate bellwort, rattlesnake fern (*Botrychium virginianum*), sanicula (*Sanicula* sp.), false Solomon's seal (*Maianthemum racemosum*), purple toadshade (*Trillium cuneatum*), and partridgeberry.

The Piedmont/Mountain Semipermanent Impoundment is located at the east end of Salem Lake, just above where Kerners Mill Creek empties into the lake. This functioning wetland appears to have formed when Salem Lake was filled, flooding the wide floodplain area upstream. It has not been thoroughly studied, but appears to be of good quality, supporting scattered trees such as sweet gum, black willow, and river birch and dense thickets of tag alder (*Alnus serrulata*).

Herbs such as sedges (*Carex* spp.), American bur reed (*Sparganium americanum*), and lamp rush (*Juncus effusus*) occur in places. The vine common greenbrier (*Smilax rotundifolia*) is common around the edges. The impounded area appears to be a couple of feet in depth.

**OWNERSHIP:** City of Winston-Salem (Winston-Salem Recreation Dept.).

**PROTECTION STATUS:** The site is contained within a city park. Provisions for protecting this natural area should be incorporated into park management plans.